



School Psychologist

OVERVIEW

The Presentation Sisters established Star of the Sea College in 1883. The College has a rich tradition of educating students to make a difference in the world and work for justice. Since 2014, Star of the Sea College has been a member school of Kildare Ministries.

All staff members are expected to support the College's mission to empower young people to engage in critical reflection leading to positive action for our world. The College community's success is shaped by their energy, skills, talents and shared sense of mission.

In addition, the expectation is that all staff support the Catholic ethos of the College, work with the Leadership Team in ways respectful of the Catholic and Presentation spirit of the College, support the College's Mission statement and assist in the implementation of the Strategic Plan and College Improvement Plan.

Star of the Sea College promotes the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all students.

Child Safety

Star of the Sea College is committed to the safety and wellbeing of our students. The College is committed to the protection of all children from all forms of child abuse. In this context, the College has implemented a comprehensive child safety program and processes which apply to all community members. All staff appointed to the College are expected to take an active role in maintaining children's safety and have a demonstrated understanding of appropriate behaviours when engaging with children. They must therefore be a suitable person to engage in child connected work while holding a current Working with Children Check (WWCC). Staff are also required to have a sound knowledge of their legal obligations relating to child safety under Ministerial Order No. 870 Child Safe Standards.

Role of the School Psychologist

The College Psychologist plays an important role in the provision of pastoral care within the College. The key responsibilities of the role at Star are to provide advocacy and support to students through individual counselling as well as to provide consultation and education to staff to support their role in student wellbeing.

General Responsibilities:

The psychologists at Star of the Sea College provide free support to students, in the form of counselling, assessment, information and referral. Where appropriate, the psychologists may work closely with parents and teachers to maximize student wellbeing. The psychologists may also make referrals to community or specialist service providers for further assessment and support.



Administrative

- To maintain accurate, confidential files
- To maintain individual case statistics and records
- To ensure students referred to the psychologist are seen promptly and with appropriate regularity for their needs and then refer to external agencies where appropriate.
- To keep the Deputy Principal Students updated on the progress of all assigned students, especially those deemed at higher risk.
- To attend regular case management meetings with each Pastoral Leader and to report students of concern weekly to the Deputy Principal- Students.
- To attend other meetings as requested.
- To present to students, staff and parents on welfare related issues as required.
- To be involved in running small group programs as required.

Psychological

- To provide individual counselling and guidance to students who may be self-referred, or referred through the Deputy Principal Students using evidence based interventions.
- To provide small group counselling and mediation sessions
- To work closely with families to facilitate positive parenting practices
- To develop, in collaboration with the Head of Learning Diversity, an overall psychological and educational approach to designated students
- To administer and report on psychological and educational assessments as required
- To establish and maintain contacts with qualified personnel and agencies so that students requiring therapeutic counselling or intervention beyond the resources of the College Psychologists can be referred to the appropriate outside agency with prior agreement of the student and/or parent. These agencies may include local youth services as well as private psychologists, paediatricians, psychiatrists and other allied health providers
- To liaise with external providers and professionals regarding students where appropriate
- To work in collaboration with and provide consultation to teachers, Pastoral Leaders, Deputy Principal Students, Careers Advisor, Head of Learning Diversity and the Principal on matters regarding particular students' welfare
- To assist with the planning, development and implementation of programs that will assist students and their families in coping with the pressures of study, as well as the social, emotional and family issues encountered by students when required
- To report to the Deputy Principal – Students any problems/issues associated with student welfare or particular students at risk at the College
- To act, where appropriate, as an advocate for students by ensuring that students have advocacy within the College or with other agencies in the wider community.
- To adhere to the code of conduct and PsyBA mandated APS Code of Ethics and guidelines at all times
- To seek professional supervision on a regular basis



- To undertake regular professional learning and proactively advise the School on current best practice in the area of developmental and educational psychology
- To perform other duties related to this position as determined by the Principal
- To provide information/resources to staff, parents and students on relevant wellbeing or psychological issues
- To take part in discussions, meetings of committees in response to relevant issues

Specific Duties

- Be accessible to students for appointments.
- Keep appropriate files and write reports where necessary.
- Be accessible to staff for liaison.
- Contribute to the College's Wellbeing Programs.
- Attend meetings with the Deputy Principal Students, Pastoral Leaders and Head of Learning Diversity.
- Support the Leadership Team in the ongoing implementation of Child Safety Standards and Mandatory Reporting.
- Participate in school functions.
- Participate in co-curricular program including, but not limited to, Masses, Liturgies, Sports carnivals, Music Festival, Presentation Night, camps and retreats.
- Attend professional supervision provided by the school.
- Participate at the Catholic Secondary Schools' Support Group (CSSS) meetings.
- Respond to Critical Incidents

Selection Criteria

Academic Qualifications

- Registration with APHRA
- Experience with counselling adolescents and supporting families.
- Understanding of the Secondary and Tertiary tier of the Mental Health Care System.
- Experience working systemically within a school setting.
- Understanding of the philosophy and spirituality of a Catholic school.
- An understanding of the issues facing young people today.
- An ability to relate to a wide variety of students.

**CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT**

Direct Report	Deputy Principal Students
Date	2021
Qualifications	APHRA Registration Essential Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Full registration by the Psychology Board of Australia under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law• Full membership of the Australian Psychological Society• Current Working with Children Check / National Police Criminal History Check (as appropriate to jurisdiction)
Salary	<i>Entitlements under the Victorian Catholic Schools Multi Employer Agreement (2018)</i>
Approved By	Principal
Version	1
Amendments	